

SEQ ID NO:42); (d) combining the cytotoxic T cells separately with the matched and mismatched target cells; and (e) measuring cytolysis.

57. The method of claim 56, wherein the cytotoxic T cells are combined with HLA class I-matched lymphocytes.

58. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide that induces an hepatitis C virus (HCV)-specific response in cytotoxic T lymphocytes having a sequence that differs no more than about 20% from ADLMGYIPLV (Core₁₋₁₄₀; SEQ ID NO:1), DLMGYIPLV (Core₁₃₂₋₁₄₀; SEQ ID NO:54), LLAILSCLTV (Core₇₈₋₁₈₇; SEQ ID NO:2), QLRRHIDLLV (E1₂₅₇₋₂₆₆; SEQ ID NO:3), LLCPAGHAV (NS3₁₆₉₋₁₁₇₇; SEQ ID NO:26), KLVALGINAV (NS3₁₄₀₆₋₁₄₁₅; SEQ ID NO:28), SLMAFTAAV (NS4₁₇₈₉₋₁₇₉₇; SEQ ID NO:34), LLFNILGGWV (NS4₁₈₀₇₋₁₈₁₆; SEQ ID NO:35), or ILDSFDPLV (NS5₂₂₅₂₋₂₂₆₀; SEQ ID NO:42), and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

59. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 58, wherein the peptide has less than 20 amino acids.

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments. Support for the inclusion of the term "isolated" is found in the Specification at, for example, page 10, lines 13-15. Support for the language "differs no more than about 20%" occurs in the Specification at, for example, page 14, lines 1-5. Support for peptides having "9 or 10", "from 8 to 12", and "less than 20" amino acids occurs in the Specification at, for example, page 8, lines 28-36, page 9, lines 32-33, and page 21, lines 10-11, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by way of the above-recited amendments to the Specification or the new claims.

Applicants believe that no fee is required with this Preliminary Amendment beyond what is provided for in the accompanying Transmittal Form; however, to the extent that any further fee is required for consideration and entry of the present Preliminary Amendment in this case, the US Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to debit charge Account No. 04-0480.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0480.

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